

Association for several years, an organization residing in one of America's most famous Italian-American neighborhoods. As President, Chris has promoted and helped grow businesses on the Hill, creating jobs for his fellow citizens. Chris has also led the Hill Business Association in numerous community improvement initiatives such as successfully organizing neighborhood parades and festivals, raising money for local park improvements, and securing funding for beautification projects.

Chris is very active with St. Ambrose Catholic Church where he volunteers helping the school prepare healthy lunches for the students. Imagine running a business, volunteering for community and business organizations, raising a family, and still having time to go to your church and make meals for school age children. Chris is a very special person.

This is the kind of citizen our founding fathers hoped our Nation would have—engaged citizens in the private sector and the public square. This October, The Italian Club of St. Louis, celebrating its 90th Anniversary, will recognize Chris Saracino for his outstanding contributions to St. Louis and the Italian-American community by presenting him with the Club's Italian Heritage Award. This award salutes Chris Saracino for demonstrating excellence in business, leadership in the community, and compassion for others. I congratulate my good friend Chris Saracino for this well deserved honor. St. Louis, Missouri, and America are fortunate to have such a committed and unselfish citizen. May he continue to lead and inspire others to do the same.

IN RECOGNITION OF MICHAEL  
BRUNICARDI

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 9, 2012*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Lieutenant Michael Brunicardi, who has retired after devoting more than three decades to protecting the citizens of the San Francisco Bay Area.

Lieutenant Brunicardi graduated from San Jose City College Police Academy in 1978. After a brief period working for the San Mateo Police Department, Lieutenant Brunicardi went on to Colma, where he protected the public as a police officer and sergeant for 8 years. He returned to San Mateo in 1987 and served in the San Mateo Police Department for 25 years. He was promoted to Corporal in 1992, Sergeant in 1994 and Lieutenant in 2001.

Throughout his career Lieutenant Brunicardi has gone above and beyond the call of duty, and has dedicated himself to protecting victims and young people. He has put his own life on the line for the safety of others.

Lieutenant Brunicardi has received a multitude of awards and recognitions for his outstanding service. In 1985, he was awarded the Heroism Award from the Peninsula Council of Lion's Clubs for his apprehension of an armed and dangerous suspect. He has received numerous commendations from the District Attorney's Office for his investigative skills in a variety of crimes, including child molestation cases. The Downtown San Mateo Association presented him with an award for "Outstanding Dedication" to the development of the family-friendly safety program in a new downtown theater project. In Lieutenant Brunicardi's 25-year career with the City of San Mateo he amassed more than 100 letters of acknowl-

edgement and thanks from the public and city staff because of his integrity and professionalism.

Community policing involves building lasting relationships and lines of communication between police officers and the public. Lieutenant Brunicardi has dedicated his career to this type of important police work, particularly in areas facing gang violence and other criminal activities. He has implemented several neighborhood safety partnership programs in cooperation with neighborhood association groups.

At age 55, Lieutenant Brunicardi is a proud husband and father. He has been married to his wife, Valerie, for 20 years and has five children: Anthony, Steven, Andrew, Justin and Nicole, who range in age from 11 to 27.

Lieutenant Brunicardi loves working with young adults and children and has coached baseball for 25 years. For 10 years he contributed as a board member of the Burlingame Youth Baseball Association, and serves as that association's president.

Although Lieutenant Brunicardi is retiring from a long and meaningful career as a law enforcement officer, he will continue to play a vital role in our community as an associate professor at the College of San Mateo. In September, Lieutenant Brunicardi began teaching Criminal Justice, Juvenile Justice and Criminal Investigation in this role. While Lieutenant Brunicardi feels blessed to be able to work with young people in this capacity, his students will benefit most from his dynamic personality, his passion for the profession and his expertise in the field.

Mr. Speaker, Lieutenant Brunicardi has devoted his time, energy and passion to serving as a leader and a role model in our community. I ask that the House of Representatives join me in commending him for his extraordinary selflessness and service.